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STATINTL

3 More Double Billings on Fares Linked to Dodd

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 — Three more instances where Senator Thomas J. Dodd apparently submitted two bills for the same airline fares came to light today.

It was learned that the Senate Ethics Committee was aware of these three apparent double billings. Two other double billings—one for a trip to Los Angeles in February, 1964, and another for a trip to San Francisco in June, 1961—were disclosed on July 21 and 22.

The Ethics Committee—formally known as the Select Committee on Standards and Conduct—is investigating charges of misconduct against the Connecticut Democrat by Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson, the newspaper columnists.

The committee's investigation into apparent double payments for airline travel is a byproduct of its inquiry into the columnists' charges that Mr. Dodd used campaign funds and the proceeds of testimonial dinners for personal expenses.

It is understood that the Internal Revenue Service is also looking into the question of double billing to see if the Senator, in the event he was reimbursed twice, reported the second payment as personal income.

Speech to Doctors

The first of the additional instances of apparent double billing involves a trip to San Francisco for a speech on June 21, 1964. The speech was to the American Medical Political Action Committee during the annual convention of the American Medical Association.

A check, No. 3669, dated June 17, 1964, indicates that the political action committee paid Mr. Dodd \$2,000 in advance as the honorarium for his speech. "A Democrat looks at the 1964 elections."

Then, according to a check numbered 3740, dated July 8, 1964, the committee paid the Senator \$739.80 to cover the air travel and expenses for himself and Mr. Michael V. O'Hare, a former aide, who accompanied him.

In a telephone interview today from the headquarters of the political action committee in Chicago, David Baldwin, the executive secretary, confirmed

the payments and the check numbers.

He said the expenses submitted by the Senator were broken down as follows: air travel, \$636.08; hotel in New York before departure for San Francisco, \$22; meals, \$15.74; taxis and miscellaneous, \$16.

The fare for Mr. Dodd, who flew from Hartford to New York and then to San Francisco was \$340.72, according to a photo copy of his ticket. The fare for Mr. O'Hare, who flew from Washington to join the Senator in New York and then flew to San Francisco was \$345.34, according to his ticket.

The Senator used his personal air credit card for these tickets. Mr. O'Hare's fare was incorporated in a bill from American Airlines for \$870.11, submitted to the Senator's office on July 23.

On August 1, Mr. O'Hare sent this bill to Edward Sullivan, who was in charge of the Senator's office in Hartford, to be paid out of the funds of the "Dodd Testimonial Committee." The funds were raised by a "Dodd Day" in Connecticut on Oct. 26, 1963. A statement sent to Mr. Dodd by American Airlines on Aug. 25 shows that this bill for \$870.11 was paid on Aug. 5.

Mr. Dodd's fare was included in the same Aug. 25 bill for \$461.32. It was forwarded to Mr. Sullivan by Mr. O'Hare on Sept. 1, and was paid, according to a Sept. 24 statement of American Airlines on Sept. 10.

Thus, Mr. Dodd apparently billed both the political action committee and the Hartford account for the two fares, and was apparently able to retain payment for one billing.

Orlando Is Billed

A second trip to engage the attention of the ethics committee took place in August, 1962. On Aug. 11, Mr. Dodd and Senator Karl E. Mundt, Republican of South Dakota, addressed the Orlando Committee for a Free World Academy, under the auspices of the Florida city's Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Dodd billed the committee for \$435.95, of which \$300 was an honorarium, \$131.45 for air travel and \$4.50 for lodging.

But an entry in the report of the Secretary of the Senate for July 1 to Dec. 31, 1962, shows that a check was made

out to Senator Dodd for \$215.63 to cover the expenses of a trip to Florida, Aug. 10 to 13.

According to the report, these expenses were "incurred for the Committee on the Judiciary" and included two and a-half days per diem expenses in Miami at \$16 a day, or \$40; \$12 for taxis, and air fare to Miami and back, \$163.63.

From the records, it appears that Mr. Dodd submitted a bill to the Orlando committee for air fare to that city and another to the Senate for air fare to Miami in the same period of time.

The third trip was taken by Mr. Dodd and Carl L. Perlan of the staff of the Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency, of which the Senator is chairman, between Feb. 26 and March 2, 1965. They went from Washington to Los Angeles, with stops in El Paso, Tucson, Ariz., and San Diego, Cal.

At Tucson the Senator spoke at the University of Arizona. According to a check numbered 7576 and dated March 16, the university paid him \$295 in expenses, including \$284.34 for air travel and \$10.66 for lodging.

But according to voucher No. 553 of the Senate Disbursing Office, dated Oct. 26, 1965, American Airlines was paid \$664.87 for the combined round fares of Mr. Dodd and Mr. Perlan in the period "Feb. 26—March 2." It was charged to "transportation for the Juvenile Delinquency Subcommittee."

On July 23, after newspaper reports on what appeared to be two double billings for a speech to the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles in February, 1964, and a speech to the National Council of Juvenile Judges in San Francisco in June, 1961, John F. Sonnett, Mr. Dodd's attorney, said that "A thorough review" of the Senator's travel expenses was being made.

Mr. Sonnett said he was confident that this review, which would take "several days," would show "either that the allocations were proper or that, if any error was made, it was due to Senator Dodd's misplaced confidence in Michael V. O'Hare."

He said Mr. O'Hare had "full responsibility" for administering the Senator's expenses from May, 1961, through Jan. 31, 1966.

Mr. O'Hare has readily admitted in testimony before the ethics committee that he joined James P. Boyd Jr., the Senator's former administrative assistant, and Marjorie Carpenter,

his former secretary, in taking documents from Mr. Dodd's files and giving them to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Pearson for copying.

In a telephone interview today, Mr. Sonnett said Mr. Dodd's staff was still working on the review of travel expenses.

"I hope they will be through next week," he said, "but I don't HAVE a date."

Neither Mr. Sonnett nor the Senator's office would answer questions on the three latest instances of apparent double billings. But Mr. Sonnett said, "This is not Mr. Dodd's doing."

Mr. O'Hare has insisted that any double billing he did was expressly on the Senator's orders.

Mr. Sonnett also said, "As far as the funds from testimonial dinners are concerned, he [Senator Dodd] was free to do with that as he pleased. That is the law, as it was and is. It was his personal money."